



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT [IDS]

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97, 1.98, and it is requested that the information set forth in this statement and in the listed documents be considered during the pendency of the above-identified application, and any other application relying on the filing date of the above-identified application or cross-referencing it as a related application.

[X] 1. This IDS should be considered, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97, as it is filed.

(Check one of the boxes A-D)

A. within three months of the filing date of the above-identified national application or within three months of the entry into the national stage of the above-identified international application.

B. before the mailing date of a first office action on the merits..

C. after (A) and (B) above, but before final rejection or allowance, and Applicants have made the necessary certification (box "i" below) or paid the necessary fee (box "ii" below).

(check one of the boxes "i" and "ii" below:)

[] i. Counsel certifies that, upon information and belief, each item of information listed herein was either (a) cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS; or (b) was not cited

in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, was not known to any individual designated in 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS.

ii. A check for the fee set forth in 1.17(p), presently believed to be \$240, is enclosed (check no. _____).

D. after (A), (B) and (C) above, but before payment of the issue fee: Applicant petitions under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(d) for the consideration of this IDS. A check for the fee set forth in § 1.17(i), presently believed to be \$130 is enclosed (check no. __). Counsel certifies that, upon information and belief, each item of information listed herein was either (i) cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the IDS; or (ii) was not cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, was not known to any individual designated in 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS.

2. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.98, this IDS includes a list (e.g., form PTO-1449) of all patents, publications, or other information submitted for consideration by the office, either incorporated into this IDS or as an attachment hereto. A copy of each document listed is attached, except as explained below.

(check boxes A and/or B and fill in blanks, if appropriate.)

A. Document(s) _____ is (are) deemed substantially cumulative to document(s) _____ and in accordance with 1.98(c), only a copy of each of the latter documents is enclosed.

B. Certain documents were previously cited by or submitted to the Office in the following prior application(s), which are relied upon under 35 U.S.C. 120:

[insert serial numbers and filing dates of prior applications]

Applicant identifies these documents by attaching hereto copies of the forms PTO-892 and PTO-1449 from the files of the prior application(s) or a fresh PTO- 1449 listing these documents, and request that they be considered and made of record in accordance with 1.98(d). Per 37 CFR 1.98(d), copies of these documents need not be filed in this application.

3. Document(s) _____ is(are) not in the English language. In accordance with 1.98(c), Applicant states:

An English translation of each document (or of the pertinent portions thereof), or a copy of each corresponding English-language patent or application, or English-language abstract (or claim) is enclosed.

A concise explanation of the relevance of document(s) _____ is found in the attached search report (see reply to Comment 68 in the preamble to the final rules;

1135 OG 13 at 20).

- [] A concise explanation of the relevance of document(s) _____ is set forth as follows:

[Insert concise explanation of relevance]

- [] A concise explanation of the relevance of document(s) _____ can be found on page(s) _____ of the specification.

- [] A concise explanation of document(s) _____ can be found on the attached sheet.

4. No explanation of relevance is necessary for documents in the English language (see reply to Comments 67 and 68 in the preamble to the final rules; 1135 OG 13 at 20).

- [X] 5. Other information being provided for the examiner's consideration follows:

An International Search Report dated November 17, 2003, which issued during the prosecution of Applicant's PCT Patent Application No. PCT/IL03/00616.

6. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97(g) and (h), the filing of this IDS should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made or that information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in § 1.56 (b), or that any cited document listed or attached is (or constitutes) prior art. Unless otherwise indicated, the date of publication indicated for an item is taken from the face of the item and Applicant reserves the right to prove that the date of publication is in fact different.

CROSS REFERENCE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.78 TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.78, Applicant notes that the above-identified patent application may be related to the following U.S. Patent Applications:

Respectfully submitted,

WELSH & KATZ, LTD.

Gerald T. Shekleton

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Dated: December 30, 2003

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO		Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>		Application Number	10/664,631
		Filing Date	September 19, 2003
		First Named Inventor	Shpak et al.
		Art Unit	Unassigned
		Examiner Name	Unassigned
Sheet	1	of	1
		Attorney Docket Number	



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		DE 198 30 449	01/27/2000			
		JP 2001 027700	01/30/2001			
		EP 0 955 565	11/10/1999			

OTHER ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ⁶

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST .3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST .16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.